



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

South Dakota Field Office
310 Roundup Street
Belle Fourche, SD 57717-1698
Telephone: 605-892-7001
<http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en.html>



In Reply To:

1610
(MTC040)

July 22, 2009

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the Dewey Conveyor Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The document was prepared jointly by the South Dakota Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the US Forest Service (USFS) Black Hills National Forest. The DEIS analyzes the Application for Transportation and Utility Systems and Facilities on Federal Lands submitted by GCC Dacotah Inc. (GCC Dacotah) to construct approximately seven miles of an enclosed above ground conveyor belt to transfer limestone from a quarry site to a rail loading facility in Custer County, South Dakota. The proposed action includes a 6.6 mile long, above-ground, enclosed conveyor system beginning at the quarry and terminating at a new railroad load-out facility. The route would cross 1.4 miles of the Black Hills National Forest and 1.1 mile of public land administered by the BLM.

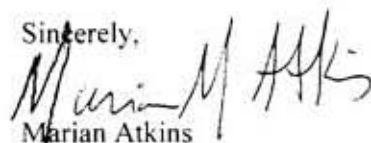
You may view the Dewey Conveyor Project DEIS on the BLM project Website: http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/fo/south_dakota_field.html. For further information, or to request a copy of the DEIS, you may contact Marian Atkins, Bureau of Land Management at 605-892-7001, or at marian_atkins@blm.gov. Copies of the DEIS are also available for public inspection at the BLM South Dakota Field Office, 310 Roundup Street, Belle Fourche, SD 57717-1698.

It is anticipated the Notice of Availability (NOA) for the DEIS will be filed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the Federal Register on July 31, 2009, which will initiate a comment period. The public comment period is 45 calendar days from the NOA publication date. Written comments will be accepted and responded to in the Final EIS if received within this period. You are encouraged to comment on the entire document. Comments will be most useful if they are specific, mention particular pages where appropriate, and address one or more of the following:

- Inaccuracies or discrepancies in information;
- Identify new information that would have a bearing on the analysis; or
- Identify new impacts, alternatives, or mitigation measures.

We appreciate your help in this planning effort and look forward to your continued interest and participation.

Sincerely,


Marian Atkins
Field Manager
South Dakota Field Office